

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: "John T. Croteau" <jt@comsol.org>
Subject: [1242] 6M QRP
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951211185556.885A-100000@aurora.comsol.org>

I want to start some QRP HB/KIT projects for 6 Meters. Anyone know of any decent 6M Transverter and/or Transceiver schematics/kits?

I notice T-Kits now has a 6M Transverter based upon a 14MHz IF but it is limited to transmitting only between 50 and 52Mhz? I would like to find something that covers the entire band both on TX and RX.

Thanks!

John T. Croteau - A.R.S. KA1VIX
From Beautiful Minneapolis, Minn.

Linux and Small HomeBrewed QRP
Station and Proud of it!

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: rflight@VNET.IBM.COM
Subject: [1216] 80 meter net a success
Message-ID: <199512111237.HAA41293@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Congratulations Paul... and the whole QRP-L gang that met the calling. I was really impressed with the entire experience. Not only was there a grand showing with respect to the number of participants, but virtually all stayed around to add a few comments, and nearly all were still present for the final round of 72, 73, GE. etc. I was equally impressed with the vast majority at QRP and below. Even those of us who lack the resource, cranked our rice boxes to minimum power putting us within 3 dB of parity. It was remarkable indeed a spiritual experience to hear nearly all of the gang at S-9 and above. Even the scant few who were in the noise took little effort to copy. It was great fun, and I'm proud find myself among such a motley crew.

Had some thoughts about the name game last night, so I'll kick off the debate with a few to get folks a thinkin'!

My first suggestion should appeal to Uncle Chuck and his following:

How about the "Wee didit" net

The name is short, motivational, and articulates well the concept of QRP. Of course the Logo for this could be quite simply:

Wee.. (i.e. using 2 periods for the dits.) To the casual observer... the name implies tiny... the most salient virtue of QRP.

My second offering will strike a chord with the founder of:

The Limbo net... (how low can you go?)

Of course not all of us are yet crystaled up for his channel of choice (i.e. 3560 KHz), so many of us will have to go searching for our very own "Limbo Rock" :-)

I hope I didn't lose anybody with that one... This was inspired by a popular dance of the late 60's or very early 70's... It sure hits home with the spirit of QRP, and is invitingly motivational toward seeing just how low we can crank down the Edison stock and still get into the net. It also invites those who want to join in on the group, but otherwise lack the ability to do so without the feeling of being an intruder. For example... many of us felt welcome with minimum power albeit not quite at the "official" QRP limit. It was clear there were no participants burning up the ether. After all... If 100 watts is your minimum, we want you to participate anyway... It won't take but one or two evenings with this gang to realize you have to make a QRP TX number one on your "wish list" for Christmas, birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion. Just check in with your minimum... and we'll accept you have the right motivation.

My third suggestion is my personal favorite, and was inspired by a QSL I received from my best "confirmed" QRP DX to date... a contact made during a visit to Smokies in October. While on that issue I apologize publicly now to LB and Ten Tec for not factoring their respective visits during that trek.

The QSL from WA2EAA (Valley Center Ca. via Pigeon Forge, Tn wid 1.5 watts) stated in his Remarks:

" FB on the QRP! - my nite lite is running 2x the power and can't get past the bathroom! Hi! 73, Tony"

As I mentioned... I was inspired by this comment, and thus offer the suggested name of:

"The KnightLites"

(Alternatively the NightLights.. the acronym NL symbolic of Noise Limited is an interesting twist - I apologize for suggesting reducing it to an acronym... guess it's the IBM in me :-)

As a late night net... running a bit light on power... and truly less than many night lights, it is so apropos. It even inspires a strategy for

mustering NCS volunteers, and regular participation. How bout that Paul?

Thinking along the lines of Sir Lancelot et al. A certificate could be offered for regular participation (say 25 or more check-in's... or less if the number is burdensome).

An after net QSO with Paul revealed that he wishes to keep the net informal and conversational. A certificate could be devised; symbolic of Knighthood... making the recipient a member of the "Round Table".

A special "Sir Lancelot" or "Excalibur" award (perhaps a silver or gold sword) in the form of a sticker appending ones certificate of Knighthood could be earned by serving as NCS for 10 or more sessions. Of course a "Queen Guinevere" award could be appropriately assigned to the fairer gender among us.

Finally... a "King Arthur" award would go to the "Knight of the year".

It is a familiar story... easy for all to relate, friendly and inviting to oldtimers and newcomers alike, Chilvary as a foundation.. promoting honesty, courtesy, and integrity. Truly the spirit romanced by so many of the participants in this element of our hobby.

Hmmmmmm.... How about a "Merlin" award for the design idea of the year. I may have a candidate or two for that one. A special award indeed that could be potentially be earned by the vendor who makes a sensational contribution to the QRP community with product offerings that support our habbit:-)

Of course night lights glow faint but warmly in the dark, inviting others to seek us out... Gee guys this is starting to bring tears to my ears... I just can't take all this mushy stuff...

Those are my 3 best "spur of the moment" ideas. Others include:

"The 5 and dime net", or " 5 and 10 net"

(implies economy, with the coincidental QRP limits 5 and 10)

"The 5 and under net"

"The Low Down net"

" Late and Lite net"

Frankly... I was moved... I won't apologize for that. I have been richly blessed to have stumbled upon such a dedicated and altruistic bunch. It matters not what the group decides, it is the spirit and energy revealed last night that will go the distance. And in the end... "What's in a name?" Thank you all for inviting me to the party.

73.. 73.. didit... and so on and so forth...

Party on Garth!

de N3G0 / Gary in Raleigh

(...and anywhere I can launch a few feet of copper kite string :-)

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995

From: "John D. Spittle" <jds@freenet.vancouver.bc.ca>

Subject: [1235] Alpha, Bravo, Charlie.....

Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512111332.A22009-0100000@opus.freenet.vancouver.bc.ca>

Re: International Telecommunications Union Phonetic Alphabet

Present band conditions invariably make the use of phonetics essential for reliable exchange of information - particularly when operating SSB QRP (my excuse for this posting to QRP-L!). The ITU phonetic alphabet now appears to be the standard accepted by both hams and commercial operators - at least, within the english-speaking community. But this was not always the case and the habit of employing the first phonetic that came to mind is one that I still find hard to break. I was unable to satisfactorily answer a recent enquiry from the library of Transport Canada on the origin and evolution of phonetic alphabet(s) and suggested that this posting would be guaranteed to bring some response:-

1. How far back can the use of phonetics in voice communication be traced? Before the introduction of radio, did Bell telephone establish their own standard alphabet?
2. The use of phonetics was certainly not limited to radio and/or telephone. In the 1930s I can well remember having to read CW sent with a single flag, an Aldis lamp and a heliograph. The reader was required to call out each letter phonetically to the second member of the team who was armed with pencil and message pad. (I might add that my speed has not increased to this day!) I cannot recall whether there was a standard phonetic alphabet. At sea, the semaphore signaller presumably followed a similar procedure.
3. Returning to the ITU alphabet, I understand that changes have been made to it from time to time. Were these made to reduce ambiguity or ensure political correctness? When/what was the last change?

To avoid overloading QRP-L with more trivia, please direct any response to myself only. SEASONS GREETINGS TO ALL.

73/72 Derry VE7 Q(uatsino) K(yuquot

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Subject: [1241] Arco Trimmers
Message-ID: <951211183115_130688765@emout05.mail.aol.com>

Hi gang,

Someone on the List, asked for a source for Arco mica compression Trimmers.
Try RadioKit, PO Box 973, Pelham, New Hampshire 03076 phone 603-635-2235

72, Byron WA8LCZ Detroit

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: [1215] Cascade-just do it
Message-ID: <01HYOACWDX4E98632I@tntech.edu>

Again, I apologize for my neurotic posting a while back.

I have started building the Cascade. I have just about completed the third section. I am waiting for my Christmas present to arrive.. an Autek analyzer so that I can measure the VFO coil inductance before I solder it.

I guess this kit made me realize there are two types of kits that I find very pleasurable to build. The first is one that is a no-brainer.. really easy to follow directions.. kinda just stuff the boards and then align and operate.. yes I find this therapeutic. The second kind is the Cascade.. this is more complex than just stuffing the boards.. resistors/caps/etc...

I find I really am enjoying already having all the controls on the board before the end of the first section.. and I really like to be able to test a section at a time.. this gives me more

confidence and more importantly for people like myself that aren't electronic whizzes.. I am getting a MUCH better understanding of how this rig works.. and that is the part I like the best.

thanks guys at Norcal.. I really appreciate all your hard work.

73,72

Jeff, AC4HF

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: PAT DOYLE <DOYLEPS@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>
Subject: [1218] Club Project Regen Rcvr -Reply
Message-ID: <s0cbe7af.045@LAKEHURST.NAVY.MIL>

The 4 band regenerative reciever kit from Ten Tec is pretty good and very inexpensive. It is a bit of a challenge to master the "regeneration technique," but interesting.

If a good, reliable project is desired, this is a good one. The pc board layout is clear and uncluttered. It can be soldered and assembled in a few hours.

>>> <KT3A@aol.com> 12/08/95 08:02pm >>>
I'm not sure how simple you want the project.
Rich, N3III wrote a short article for the QRPSCP newsletter, QRP Gazette, about building a simple receiver using an NE602 and a crystal.
This is not a regen, but I do like your idea!
It was intended for the folks who never built any thing in their life. Easy and fun to do. If you're interested send me your address and I mail you a copy.
Ten-Tec had a real nice regen kit for a small price.

72 de cameron, kt3a QRP-L 7

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>

Subject: [1229] coil theory: back to basics crystal radio
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951211124528.24502A@ume>

My son wants to build an "original, homebrew" crystal radio as part of a display for a science project on propagation.
I need some feedback on how one makes a diode from scratch. Capacitor ideas?
If we use a 365pf variable how may uh (and turns on a toilet roll) do we need to resonate in the middle of the AM band?
Is there a book on this stuff so I don't have to ask these questions? ;-)

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E) * VE6GK
Clinical Assistant Professor * NorCal 519 ARCI 7650 GQRP 8329
Faculty of Medicine, Univ. of Calgary * "Power is no substitute for skill"

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: David Johnson <djohnson@acpub.duke.edu>
Subject: [1226] Dave, WA4NID, for ARCI BoD !!!
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.951211130651.9760A-100000@bio2.acpub.duke.edu>

Gang:

I recently decided to run for a position on the ARCI Board of Directors. I want to share this with you all, to let you know that I want to do all I can to to help make ARCI the best organization that it can be.

The following brief essay was sent to "Mr. Pres" (Buck) and will probably appear in a forthcoming QQ, but I thought this would be a good introduction for me to share with all. I think we should support whichever QRP clubs we choose to (and have time for!), and I feel QRP ARCI is (and has been for many years) an excellent group, sponsoring or promoting a wide range of activities, from contests, constructing gear, and sharing personal activities.

So here is my brief essay for your consideration:

Hi! I'm Dave Johnson, WA4NID, in Durham, NC. Here is a brief summary of who I am, where I've been, and why I want to serve on the QRP ARCI Board of Directors.

I'm a 36-year-young biologist, married for 2-1/2 years to a wonderful

Chinese lady. Licensed since 1975, I'm active in our local ham club: teaching morse code on a 2m repeater and writing a construction column in the newsletter. When first licensed as a teenager, I was not interested in QRP, but when I moved into dorms and apartments in college the good sense and fine challenge of QRP became a passion.

Having little formal training in electronics, I've struggled to learn by building many kits and homebrew projects. Many of these sit in limbo, awaiting to be brought to life (fixed!), but many have been turned into functioning additions to the shack. I greatly enjoy both operating and building radios and accessories. I operate all bands between 0.7 and 160 meters, using cw, ssb, and digital modes.

I'd like to serve ARCI in one main way. Basically, I want to see the club serve the interests of the members. Gathering input from the members is the first step. Defining the interests and goals of individual members will help the club; perhaps a survey can supplement individual correspondence here. Members need to think about the goals and activities of the club, and provide their input to make a better organization. I would like to see a process developed for the establishment of new club projects or activities, and for the reform of old ones when necessary. WARNING: the success of this endeavor will require YOUR participation!

One topic that needs addressing is the role of QRP ARCI in fostering relations among the various QRP clubs. The birth of so many QRP clubs lately is a great sign of the widespread interest in QRP. As ARCI members, we should do what we can to encourage the success of QRP groups and activities. Most of us show our enthusiasm for QRP through our on-the-air activities, but perhaps the club could do more to promote QRP. There is a trend to get the ARCI name and banner up at more hamfests, and this should be continued. This offers the chance to provide the personal touch. This will inspire "QRO types" to try low power operation, and may spur QRP operators not affiliated with the club to become active members. Will you help? Let's decide what needs to be done, and meet the challenges ahead, together!

72, Dave WA4NID

P.S. - my packet address shown in the .sig is not operational now. Hopefully we can get DURBBS online soon!

more OBQRP:

Great qso with n3go, Gary, in Raleigh last week, him using a one-transistor xmtr. I've prodded him to share his design; it started as a challenge for minimal parts count! Not too chirpy, Gary - dwееееep dwe dwееееep dwe
dwееееep dwееееep dwe dwееееep ; -0

David W. Johnson

QRP ARCI 6546

Amateur Extra WA4NID. Low power enthusiast! G-QRP 4864
email: djohnson@acpub.duke.edu NorCal 355
packet: WA4NID@KB4WGA.#DUR.NC.USA.NOAM TSRAC 3482

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: pelt@vt.edu (Randy Pelt)
Subject: [1236] FCC 610-V
Message-ID: <199512112152.QAA20228@quackerjack.cc.vt.edu>

This is not QRP related, but I thought I would pass along that the 610-V forms are out. I received mine today from the ARRL.

72/3

```
*****
*Ranson J. Pelt *
*Internal Audit Manager *
*Virginia Tech 0328 *
*Blacksburg, VA 24061 *
*(540) 231-9475 FAX (540) 231-4681 *
* *
*QST de nz4i Semper Fi *
*****
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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: [1230] GM30XX FOXX Xcvr info request
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951211124944.24502B-100000@ume>

While everybody is building state of the art I seem to be in a "retro" state of mind. (I just finished building my HW9 earlier this year)
Last nite I finished building a 5 transistor FOXX transiever from a schematic published in a Canadian ham magazine in 1985. Much to my surprise it worked without smoke and cheerfully puts out about 1 watt 20 thru 80. The reciever is less than astounding but this is no surprise. I would like to get some background information on this circuit plus any practical hints from those who built and or used it 10 years ago. Original article would be nice if there was one.
Skeds anyone? ;-)

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E) * VE6GK
Clinical Assistant Professor * NorCal 519 ARCI 7650 GQRP 8329
Faculty of Medicine, Univ. of Calgary * "Power is no substitute for skill"

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: ljones@why.net (ljones)
Subject: [1211] Mini Key Design
Message-ID: <19951211054521242.AAA207@dal45.why.net>

Greetings Gang...

Just an update on my design for a minikey. I have scanned all the hobby shops, hardware stores and Home Depots looking for material that I could possibly use without to much modification, if any. I drew a blank. I will now go to the various surplus establishments. If that fails, it will have to be built from machined parts which can get expensive. Sure wish I had a Bridgeport. Anyway, will keep you posted as to the progress if you are interested...

72/73

dee-it dee-it (Texas Accent)

Larry n5osg

Larry Jones N50SG NorTex QRP-ARCI G-QRP NorCal MI-QRP NE-QRP
4028 Random Circle
Garland Tx 75043-3250

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: "rick" <rick@dns.enter.net>
Subject: [1212] New 80m net.
Message-ID: <199512110519.AAA09870@dns.enter.net>

Hi,
I had a great time on this net.It was my first cw net

ever and as a plus it was qrp. I can't wait for next Sunday at 10pm (EST).

72

Rick
N3MHW

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com (David Kreinberg)
Subject: [1223] OHR ALIGNMENT II
Message-ID: <9511118187.AA818705127@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Group:

As an addition to my earlier posting regarding the alignment of my OHR EXP II, should this procedure work:

OHR rig's rx has been aligned using freq counter, so I know its very accurate.

- a. I tune in a strong signal with my good, accurate comm. rx and tune in the same signal with my OHR rig.
- b. Put a dummy load on the OHR rig, turn down the rf gain on the comm. rx, and key the OHR tx.
- c. Adjust the tx offset in the OHR rig while listening for the 700 Hz tone in the comm. rx.

Do I adjust the tx offset for a zero beat (null), and then adjust this slightly up/down for the 700 Hz tone. How do I know if I've adjusted the offset too far (hence my not hearing a response to my many, many calls pant, pant ;-))

I'm not good at this sort of thing, and would really like to save the \$30.00 OHR would charge to align this for me :-o

Any help/suggestions would be very helpful!!

72/73 de Dave KK5HA (frustrated and ready to hop on 40M QRP!!)
QRP-L #25

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com (David Kreinberg)
Subject: [1221] OHR ALIGNMENT TROUBLE?

Message-ID: <9511118187.AA818702685@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Group:

I'm having trouble aligning a OHR EXP II 40M rig, I think. All working well, rx is very hot, tx putting out almost 3 solid watts. However, I only worked 2 QSO's in about 6 hours on Sunday evening. I've never had that poor a performance - even when 20M closes down!!

In an email to Chuck, he suggested my tx alignment may be off from the rx. My calls are not being ignored, I may not be hearing the other guy!!

My question: Is there another way to align tx/rx together, other than the way OHR suggests? The only "BIG" rig I have for 40M is an old SB-102, and it's got questionable accuracy.

If anybody has a way of pretty close alignment for the OHR series w/o the use of an other rig, please pass it on. BTW - I have a good, accurate double conversion superhet rx to help in the alignment process. Any way to use this?

tnx,
72/73 de Dave KK5HA
QRP-L #25

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: plquick@facstaff.wisc.edu (Paulette Quick, N9OUH)
Subject: [1234] PQ now N9OUH/EA
Message-ID: <v02110100acf1feae80@[144.92.104.146]>

Gang,

I passed the written Extra on Saturday, and having already succeeded at 20 wpm, I am now an official Extra (temporary EA)! Amazing to have finally accomplished this long held goal.

Frozen car doors and wind chills of -48 degrees F did not deter me. I decided this would be my Christmas present to myself.

On to the next goal--construction.

72 de N9OUH
Paulette Quick

plquick@facstaff.wisc.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: "Doyle, Ron" <doyler@uh2297p01.daytonoh.attgis.com>
Subject: [1225] Request for advice on end fed wires and matching.
Message-ID: <30CC7303@sdcwinn.daytonoh.attgis.com>

Christmas is coming up and I will be on the road or at least away from the home qth. My goal is to be able to work the FOX that week of Christmas without taking my whole shack with me quick and easy to make, needs not tuning out in the field and works.:)

I have the qrp+, batteries, and mouse keyer. I have been thinking of taking a end fed wire in the form of a J-pole. This would allow me to use the matching part as part of the lead in. I have enough 300 ohm twinlead to make the matching stub and wire to make the 1/2 wave end fed wire. Remember the goal here is to make something quick, easy, and needing no tuning once out in the field so I don't have to lug along a tuner and swr meter, it's going to be hard enough getting the radio and battery past those guard stations in the airports.

Now the question. How can I find the right place to attach the coax to the 300 ohm twinlead. One antenna book I have indicates that I could connect it to the bottom end but experience with vhf j-poles says it up from the bottom some. Is there a formula to figure this out?

I know this will make a one band antenna but the fox is only on one band and that is my goal right now. Specially since I have only managed to bag that critter once since this thing has started. I am hoping that the propagating is better in Oklahoma because it sure stinks here in Ohio.

Happy hunting to all. That includes Homebrew, kit, Manufactured, qro, qrp, qrpp and anything else that happens to transmit.:) (receiving would be nice too, he he he)

72, 73

Ron Doyle, N8VAR qrp-1# 263
AT&T GIS - Dayton
Work (513) 445-3179
Home (513) 237-0790
<Ronald.Doyle@DaytonOH.ATTGIS.COM>

Practice Random Kindness and Senseless Acts of Beauty

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: Michael Connor <mikec@primenet.com>
Subject: [1227] RT Systems Phone #
Message-ID: <199512111837.LAA19228@usr3.primenet.com>

Anyone have the number for Tracy at RT Systems?
I've misplaced mine. I need to check on my
96 Handbook order.
Thanks,
Mike
NQ7K

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: Bob_Tellefsen-CNSE97@email.mot.com
Subject: [1233] Slow Digest Delivery
Message-ID: <M584271.001.fy860.1.951211212629Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=LMPCC10/OU=ILBB/
PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

Just this past weekend my digest started coming two days late, rather than next
day. Is this permanent, or just a temporary quirk?
If it's permanent, longer lead time on Fox announcements or anything else would
be appreciated.
BobT N6WG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: "Richard Hieber" <SZ0026@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>
Subject: [1220] Tail ending?
Message-ID: <7DEDF2C72C7@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>

Hi all,

the other day I attended a talk at one of the local radio clubs. Hannes,
DL3NE0, spoke about his DX-pedition to the Seychelles (not QRP, but
modest with a 100 W trx and an R7). Quite a lot to consider - I enjoyed
the talk.

When he mentioned tail ending, I thought I already knew this. You hear
two OPs QSOing, wait until they finish the QSO and then call one of
them. That's it for me.

Hannes understands it something differently and claims, his interpretation can also be found in "Where do we go next?", by Marti Laiine, OH2BH. Maybe it's different because it's the interpretation of a contester. The basic situation here is that of a DX station that listens to the pileup.

Tail ending here would occur if one calling station has no clue and gives unnecessary details after having given the basic exchange of 599 (in the example below: dl9yz) Another ham (oh9mx) stands by, but after he sees that dl9yz is behaving like he is going for a ragchew, he jumps in with his call and a 559. The DX station (here: s79neo) instantly acknowledges him, and the pileup QSO is finished, while the lid is still hammering his key.

Here's some graphics to ease the understanding:

```
oh_mx                                oh9mx 599 bk
aa_st
-----
dl_yz      s79neo de dl9yz rst is 599 599 599 my name is bernhard ....
-----
          yz 599 k                                oh9mx 599 tu
```

I'd like to stress that any resemblance of the calls, aside from Hannes' DX call, to real live hams is just accidentally.

Any comment? I am not a DXer though I've worked the odd rare station. I felt a little bit annoyed that what I knew as 'tail ending' was discarded by Hannes (that's why I am posting here). Any more understandings of same term?

ObQRP: At the Xmas party at the local club station I got hold of the August issue of QST and read the article about the CMOS Super Keyer 3. I am sold! This is the perfect keyer to go with my QRP Plus, or any other rig for that! Unfortunately this article is just on what has changed from Version 2, so I've got to search for the missing info. Anyway, I'm gonna get that puppy!

72,
Richard
--

Richard Hieber, DL8MFQ/AA8CP
sz0026@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: KE3FL@delphi.com
Subject: [1213] Thanks & 4040 kit info & tuning
Message-ID: <01HYOEDKHHVC96XH7T@delphi.com>

Folks--

This is to let you know that I decided to build my own case for the NE 4040 kit I built.

The kit went together just fine. With the exception of one incorrect core and that it initially tuned up on 10.214 MHz lowest (I checked the core for the correct number of windings three times, so I'm pretty sure that was not the problem, but who knows.)

Anyway it works & I almost had a QSO on Sunday. The poor chap lost me in the QRN after he got my call & the XYL wanted help with the Christmas tree of all things. Oh well I'll be showing it off at the Carroll County ARC meeting tonight.

How to tune these babies up: I followed all the directions with the kit but I found a better way. If you have one of the antenna analysers use it in place of your big rig. They are easy to move around & they quickly find where you are. I used an MFJ analyser.

To find where the RX was all you need to do is attach a small antenna to the analyser and place it near the antenna wire inside your new rig (if you want to get fancy put a loop or two of wire around the antenna wire & attach it to the analyser.)

The MFJ has a frequency counter input. I found that for 1 to 2 watts it was safe to attach the counter directly to the antenna & unit ground. It's nice to see where you're transmitting and receiving!

DO NOT try to tune the RX while the analyser is attached directly to the antenna wire. This could overload the unit.

I want to thank Dave Benson/NN1G for his help via email. I ended up finding my way around, but it was sure nice to have him there with additional information. Isn't that what an elmer does? See folks, we have elmers all the time and wider afield with email than ever before! Thank Dave!

73 de KE3FL/Phil
:)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: plquick@facstaff.wisc.edu (Paulette Quick, N9OUH)
Subject: [1240] That's N9OUH/AE, folks!
Message-ID: <v02110102acf20c1c23c9@[144.92.104.148]>

A deeply felt thank you to all of you who sent kind greetings regarding my upgrade to Extra. Thanks also for pointing out that the "temporary" designation should be AE (not EA). Glad I made that mistake AFTER the exam! Hmm, think I'll just blame it on a frozen brain.

Time to warm up the grey cells with some RF.

72 de N9OUH
Paulette Quick
plquick@facstaff.wisc.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 11-Dec-1995 0937" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [1214] re: 2N3790 Question
Message-ID: <9512111437.AA11793@us4rnc.pko.dec.com>

Mouser has 'em. Part no. 511-2N3790, \$1.54
(800) 34 MOUSE
(800) 346 6873

=====
Tom Randolph N100Q NE-QRP 419 QRP-L 87 ARRL randolph@est.enet.dec.com
=====

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: Stan Skelton <sskelton@cln.etc.bc.ca>
Subject: [1232] Re: coil theory: back to basics crystal radio
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512111205.A2789-0100000@sparky>

Hi Rick...there was a magazine I bought in August called something like electronics experimenter, (I don't have it with me at work) that had the plans for a "foxhole radio" that used razor blades and wire coils...I'll look it up tonight if you can't find it at the library....
73's Stan...VE7SKT ***QRP-L # 34 ***

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: Raymond Sommers <rsommers@worf.uwsp.edu>
Subject: [1237] Re: coil theory: back to basics crystal radio
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.91.951211143351.8259C-1000000@worf.uwsp.edu>

On Mon, 11 Dec 1995, Rick Zabrodski wrote:

> Is there a book on this stuff so I don't have to ask these questions? ;-)
>

I have a small book by K.E. Edwards, "Radios that Work for Free", 1977,
published by Hope and Allen Publishing, P.O. Box 535, Belmont CA 94002,
Library of Congress No. 77-85456. They suggest a 200uH coil.

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|/\| |_) (/ the | ,ittle | \ ilowatt \ , uster (Wisc.)
~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Ray Sommers, WB9LKC QRP-L #8-)
rsommers@worf.uwsp.edu

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: cebik@UTKVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU
Subject: [1217] Re: home-built (adj): assembled from scratch or from a kit
Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.951211073017.543806567C-1000000@utkvx.utk.edu>

I can sympathize with all the perspectives expressed on this subject,
because there is a certain "built-in" vagueness to the idea of a home
brew rig or a home built rig, no matter where we try to place the line.
Part of the vagueness lies in the word "rig." Ham A buys a QRP+ but
builds an ATU from scratch, using his own design, and builds a kit
Wattmeter. Where does the rig end? Ham B builds a board kit rig, designs
and builds his own ATU, builds a keyer from a board and parts obtained at
hamfests, and builds the WM-1. He puts everything in separate boxes.
Ham C builds a board kit rig, designs his own ATU, builds an SWR meter
from a book circuit, builds a keyer from a board and hamfest parts--then
he puts them all in one big box. Where does his rig end? Compared to
Ham B? Is a rig simply what commercial manufacturer's have defined as a
rig for the purposes of satisfying what they take to be the broadest
sales appeal? Ham D builds an "exciter," (with or without keyer, etc.),
and he installs power and coax to his antenna feedpoint, where he
installs an amplifier directly matched to the antenna feedpoint
impedance. Wonder where his rig ends. Note that since there will be a

matching circuit in the amplifier output region to run the low impedance amplifier output to the 50-ohm level, an ATU is a convenient name for a box or an add-on, but the circuitry is simply additional matching network for other impedances. Some rigs have keyers built in, others do not.

So even apart from the question of HOW one has to build to have it count as home brew/built, I am not sure WHAT one has to build to have one's station/communications system count as home built/brew.

Two points:

1. Any contest sponsor can define home brew/built as they please, and response and participation will tell them if they have made a workable definition for whatever purposes they have in mind.
2. Support by hams for hams includes support for building whatever each ham feels challenged to build--and that includes the now-famous trouble-shooting and advisory assistance freely given by members of this list. From self-design to kits, no one needs a definition to assist with a problem, if one's experience may lend a potentially good idea. No matter how heated the discussion becomes at times, I hope no one is put off by it, thinking that they will not receive the support of the group for their efforts. I have seen absolutely no evidence of that, and I hope never to see any such evidence. So please let yourself be challenged, at whatever level you are, to build, and then turn to the friendly folks, numbered and unnumbered, on qrp-l for assistance wherever needed. I'll bet they interrupt their philosophical discussions--however much the heat helps keep their shacks warm in winter--to tackle the real live problem you may be experiencing.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

L. B. Cebik, W4RNL	/\	/\	*	/	/	/	(Off)(615) 974-7215
1434 High Mesa Drive	/	\	\	----	/	---	(Hm) (615) 938-6335
Knoxville, Tennessee	/\	\	\	/	/		(FAX)(615) 974-3509
37938-4443 USA	/	\	\				cebik@utkvx.utk.edu
QRP-ARCI 2572	G-QRP	7203	CQC 125	NEQRP	347	NORCAL 1111	MIQRP 1432
QRP-L 37		ARRL-Life		QCWA-Life			10-10 41159

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: eighmy@scott.net
Subject: [1238] Re: Hotel Antennas
Message-ID: <199512112251.QAA10265@koala.scott.net>

Hello,

I tried a new hotel antenna this weekend and was wondering if anyone else had similar results. I used a 40m Hamstick and tied the ground to the house ground (chassis of my power supply). It seemed to get out pretty well with 5 watts. Could this be a safety problem at QRO levels?

72,
Gene
wd4mps

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@bbs.abs.net (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: [1210] Re HW-8 cores
Message-ID: <1995Dec11.020314.3027@abs.net>

For both 20 and 15 meter output coils in the HW-8, try type 2 powdered iron cores. As for the other two bands, the ones where the ferrites can, and D0 at times, go bad, the cores are FT37-63 for L26, L28 and L29. For L27, which is the fat one on 80 meters, it's FT50A-63. The FT50A series is the same as the FT50 series, but fatter--the height is greater. A suitable replacement for type 63 material is type 67, which is essentially equivalent. BTW, do not try using type 61 material, which is probably on hand already--go ahead and order the proper type. I tried type 61 and results were very poor. It is not a suitable core in this application. (Yes, I did scale the number of turns to get the correct inductance, but the losses were greater.)

If anyone has problems with low power output on the HW-8 on 40 and/or 80 meters and it refuses to come up to normal with retuning the rig, the cores in the output networks could be bad. They used ferrites on those bands, powdered iron on the top two bands, and I have over ten confirmed cases of the ferrites going bad. If you want details, I have an article on the subject in the qrp-l area at ftp.lehigh.edu. It's under the articles subdirectory and the filename is something like hw8cores.

wa8mcq@bbs.abs.net qrp-l@lehigh.edu QRP-L #23

--

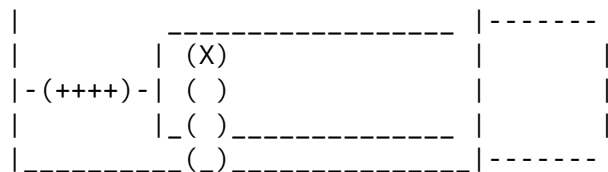
Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: SYDV00A@prodigy.com (MR FLOYD E SMITHBERG)
Subject: [1222] Re: Mini Key Design
Message-ID: <013.06518503.SYDV00A@prodigy.com>

--[FORWARDED PRIVATE MESSAGE]-----

To: ljones@why.net Order #6517845
From: SYDV00A
Subject: RE: MINI KEY DESIGN
Date: 12/11/95 09:06 AM

Hi Larry,
I have built/ modified several mini paddles from various switches and just finished building two more from sheet al and brass and junk box materials. The modified switches were open, key type switches spdt, center off, momentary either side. With some minor adjustments....to adjust tension and limit throw they worked reasonably well. One had flat paddle type knob and the other a screw-on round knob. Used the one on Scout I took to UK last July where op QRP for 3 weeks. Other with small round knob is on my NC40A I use bedside and in RV when traveling/camping. Just finished building one of .062 x 1" brass, using only hand tools and bench vise and hammer to bend. Works fine, not iambic, but nice package 1x1.5x4" overall. Toughest part is .065 x .750 slot for paddle pivot/support.



+ = small tension spring

x = 6-32 screw contact mtd in .375 x 1.25 insulated rod ().

I think you can get the idea from above. Select a suitable spring to give required tension to keep paddle centered vertically and horizontally. You could use lighter materials eg. aluminum, pcb etc. but brass makes a nice solid feel. Did not use special contact material. Wiring is obvious. Note: used .125 offset top and bottom of paddle at pivot slot. Try it..Cheep, easy to build and qualifies you for 5000 home brew points.
Floyd, NQ7X

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: "John F. Woods" <jfw@jfwhome.funhouse.com>
Subject: [1228] Re: NPO tempco 30ppm or 300ppm?
Message-ID: <199512111859.NAA15990@jfwhome.funhouse.com>

af389@lafn.org (David Shalita) asked me:
>>Looking through the DigiKey catalog, I find the following definition of
>>NPO: "Max capacitance change of +/- 5% over -55°C to +85°C." (I think
>>that's the official EIA definition.) That amounts to no worse than +-30ppm
>>or so --
> I just went thru your tempco calculations and cannot calculate 30 ppm
> as you did. I calculate plus minus 357 ppm over the 140 deg C range.
> Can you possibly explain what I am doing wrong so my calculations will
> agree with yours?

The mistake you made was to actually do the arithmetic carefully, rather than doing it in your head and ending up off by an order of magnitude, like I did. Whoops. Thanks for the correction.

7.2, John, WB7EEL

(Or is that 720? :-)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: eighmy@scott.net
Subject: [1239] Re: Quick battery question
Message-ID: <199512112251.QAA10260@koala.scott.net>

> Now, if I want to charge them but I don't have a "charger" can I
> connect them (in series) to my Astron 13.8 VDC supply through a
> current limiting resistor, sized to keep charging current to .1C or
> essentially less than 1 amp?

Check out QRP Classics (might be in ARRL Handbook) for a real simple charging circuit that uses a couple of diodes and a current limit resistor. The limit resistor is in parallel with one of the diodes. The other diode prevents the battery from discharging into the power supply when the AC power goes off.

I have used this circuit as an emergency backup supply for packet and homebrew rigs for the past three years and so far the battery hasn't degraded (just a feeling... nothing measured or scientific)

Gene
wd4mps

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [1219] Re: Re[2]: OHR EX II 40M
Message-ID: <199512111520.PAA14802@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

David,

I use a receiver and another signal generator like a bandmarker. Tune in the band marker with the Exp II and the other receiver. With Exp II on dummy load adjust transmitter to transmit exactly on the bandmarker signal while listening at the tone you like on the Exp II. This procedure will not fail.

The use of another transceiver, even though it is an Icom, Yaesu, etc. may be off dependent upon how well the other rig is setup.

There technically isn't anything wrong with the OHR procedure other than many of us have seen others using such rigs ignore us and I think it is in part due to their alignment and/or use of the RIT.

My \$0.02 worth on the subject.

dit dit es gl

cc: to qrp group for their information

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca (Paul Erickson)
Subject: [1231] Re: Surplus Stuff
Message-ID: <9512112007.AA00845@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca>

Addendum:

Just got a phone call from them, and apparently they cannot ship to Canada. They claim that their bank won't let them. They will send to a u.s. address. However, they may have some reluctance to take orders over the phone. Sorry for any inconvenience.

cheers, Paul

>
> The information for EPO is
>
> Electronic Parts Outlet
> 17318 Highway 3
> Webster, TX 77598
> (713) 338-2880
>
> I really don't know if they do mail order and I don't know what
> the handling and shipping charges would be for their stuff. The
> first one to find out let the group know.
>
> dit dit
> --
> Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
> Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150
>

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Tue Dec 12 03:06:00 1995
From: Stan Skelton <sskelton@cln.etc.bc.ca>
Subject: [1224] Re: Tail ending?
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9512110904.A6128-01000000@sparky>

Richard...re your comments on the SuperKeyer II...It's a great unit...I had no trouble building it (aside from one cold solder joint) and it does everything as advertised....However it is not on of your "complete" kits like the OHR jobs, you have to scrounge all the "big" parts so be warned....

btw: I have no financial interest in either of the manufacturers listed above (in fact I have very little financial interest in anything, that's part of my problem)

73's Stan...VE7SKT ***QRP-L # 34 ***